ESPON

AMCER

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This report presents the interim results of a Targeted Analysis conducted within the framework of the ESPON 2013 Programme, partly financed by the European Regional Development Fund.

The partnership behind the ESPON Programme consists of the EU Commission and the Member States of the EU27, plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. Each partner is represented in the ESPON Monitoring Committee.

This report does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the members of the Monitoring Committee.

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This basic report exists only in an electronic version.

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1 Executive summary

The **aim** of the ESPON AMCER project is to provide a framework for the analysis and monitoring of the impact of EU R&D policies at regional level, for creating strategic knowledge and building better synergies between regional and EU R&D policies.

The **overall objective** for the project is to study the participation of nine European regions in European R&D and innovation support programmes.

These **regions** are Lower Saxony, Tuscany, Andalusia, Catalonia, Brittany, Provence-Alpes Côte d'Azur (PACA), Ostrobothnia, Flanders, and East of England.

European Union (EU) R&D policies seem to have a substantial impact on regional R&D systems and territorial cohesion, both at a European level and in the regions.

Against the backdrop of the aims of Europe´s 2020 strategy, the European Commission (EC) aims to improve the impact of its funding programmes on more competitive R&D systems in regions.

The ESPON AMCER project aims to provide a significant contribution in this context by providing a model for a comprehensive analysis of the regional participation in EU R&D programme.

At the cut off reporting date reflected by the present report, the status of implementation of the project can be summarised as follows.

The first component within the AMCER project aims to provide general insights into the RTDI systems of the regions, by compiling a synthesis of the R&D systems and territorial challenges at the regional level for each of the nine case-study regions involved. Work on this component has been completed and the result is the Synthesis Report (annex to the present report) that provides an overview of the situation in the nine regions and forms the basis for further analyses in the following components of the project.

The report provides **overall findings** for each of the sectors reviewed, namely general socio-economic characteristics, the situation concerning RTDI, including human capital and the potential for innovation; RTDI governance and policies; public and private actors as well as the overall trends and challenges affecting the regional R&D systems.

It also provides **conclusions on the Regional Innovation System (RIS)** for each of the nine regions.

Access to EU datasets is a crucial element for the success of the ESPON AMCER project. Important efforts have been made, in coordination with ESPON, in order to ensure access to Framework Programme and other EU databases, which are needed to carry out analyses of region participation in the EU programmes and assess their results. Access to EU dataset related to EU RDI programmes in the 9 target regions have been fully achieved, although with considerable delays and gaps, and although this information should have been available at project start.

The evaluation of regional participation (Component 2 of the AMCER project) aims to provide a list and breakdown of EU R&D investments at regional level in the nine study regions. Component is divided into three tasks:

- Data collection and methodological refinement of the regional data, in order to proceed to the successive steps, which are
- Design of templates and selection of indicators for data mining
- Matching and cleaning of regional information vis-à-vis central EC database contents, etc.

Activities in this area are well underway and are being pursued in close cooperation with Stakeholders.

Depending on the degree of cooperation and the specific difficulties which may be encountered in the context of each region, it is foreseen that this activity should be completed with success in due course. The next Steering Committee meeting in May will provide an opportunity to discuss and address any outstanding issue in this regards.

Activities related to other components 3. Methodology and 4. Assessment have initiated and are been pursued.

An ESPON AMCER event is scheduled to take place on 15 and 16 May 2012 in Florence which will include a Steering Committee meeting and a workshop to discuss the draft proposed methodology for monitoring and assessing regional participation in EU RDI programmes, as well as other matters related to the project's activities.

Activities related to final report (5. Synthesis and inter-regional comparison) will be initiated when the results of other components will become available with a view to provide meaningful recommendations to Stakeholders.

Dissemination activities related to communication and information are under preparation and being pursued as required.

2 More detailed overview of the analytical approach to be applied

2.1 The concept of the project

European Union (EU) research and development (R&D) policies have an increasing impact on R&D systems and territorial cohesion, at European level and in the regions. However, regions only have a fragmented vision of the territorial impact of the earmarking of EU Regional Policy in the R&D field and of the results of EU programmes such as the FP6/FP7 and the CIP on their territories. As monitoring tools on these issues, they are using national or European general assessments and local empirical data. Despite the fact that they are actors in the R&D field, regions are lacking strategic knowledge for building better synergies between their policies and EU R&D ones.

Against this background, the Advanced Monitoring and Coordination of EU R&D Policies at Regional Level (AMCER) project aims to provide a framework for the analysis and monitoring of impacts of EU R&D policy at the regional level and current coordination in order to create strategic knowledge for building better synergies between individual regional R&D policies and EU ones. The study is carried out in nine European regions involved[1] and through a set of specific tasks divided into five components.

2.2 Main objectives of the research

The high level objective for the AMCER project is to:

Provide a framework for the analysis and monitoring of impacts of EU R&D policy at the regional level and its current coordination in order to create strategic knowledge for building better synergies between individual regional R&D policies and EU ones. In furtherance to this main objective, the project will deliver the following results:

- A synthesis of the main R&D challenges and the territorial and R&D systems of the regions involved in the project;

- The development and/or consolidation of data with regard to the investments funded through EU R&D policies in the regions involved in the project;

[1] AMCER Regions: Tuscany, Andalusia, Catalonia, Bretagne, Provence Alpes – Cote d'Azur, Ostrobothnia, Lower Saxony, Flanders, East of England.

- The development of a harmonised methodology for the development and consolidation of regionalised data concerning the investments funded in the framework of EU R&D policies in the regions involved in the project; a methodology for advanced monitoring that is able to control for headquarters effects and with recommendations for the next generation of EU R&D and innovation programme, Horizon 2020.

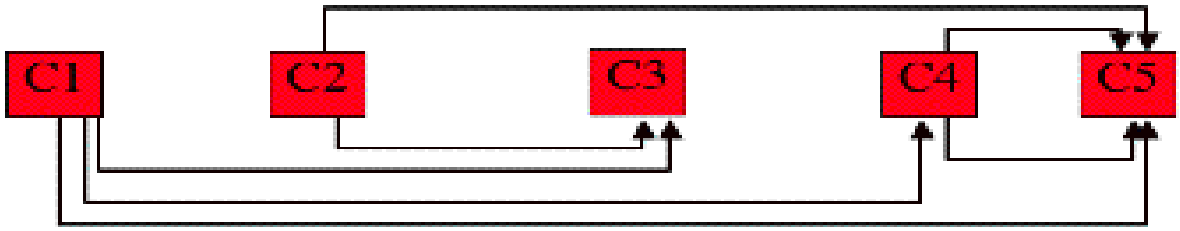
- The analysis of the impact of the investment funded in the framework of EU R&D policies in the regions involved in the project both in terms of: a) R&D performance, territorial cohesion, R&D specialisation and b) territorial trends like geographical concentration of R&D activities in regions, links and the eventual parallels between the territorial dynamics generated by EU funding for R&D in terms of geographical concentration of activities and the ones observed more globally;

- An inter-regional comparison of the results obtained for each of the regions involved, at horizontal level (all R&D sectors taken together), and at the level of specific R&D sectors to be defined.

2.3 Methodology and hypothesis for further investigation

The 5 components of the AMCER project are linked to each other: the first and the last components being respectively the introduction and conclusion of the project. The outputs of components are required and feed the tasks of other components. That is especially the case for the fourth component that is notably dependent on the indicators and analysis produced by the second component.

Figure 1: AMCER projects components and links



	Component 1 Synthesis of the main R&D and territorial challenges	**Component 2 List and breakdown of EU R&D investments at regional level**	**Component 3 Methodology for the development of regionalised data**	**Component 4 Analysis of EU R&D policies impact**	**Component 5 Synthesis and comparisons**
Input : Relevant analysis and data to take into account	•ESPON 2006 thematic project (2.1.2) •Regional Innovation Monitor	•ESPON 2006 thematic project (2.1.2) •FP /CIP Contracts databases •ERDF annual impact reports •Regional general assessments		•ESPON 2013 applied research project on territorial dimension (KIT) •Study for DG ENTR about Synergies between FP CIP and SF	
Related Components			Component 1 Component 2	Component 1 Component 2	Component 1 Component 2 Component 3 Component 4
Output : Expected results / Deliverables / Milestones	•Synthesis study about policy challenges in the 9 regions	•Indicators, maps, SNA, projects breakdown tables	•Methodological paper for advanced monitoring of R&D	•Overall analysis on the impact of European programmes at regional level, maps	•Synthesis document, interregional comparison
Objectives/ Tasks	•TPG or regional correspondents are in charge to fill a template with information provided by stakeholders or other local authorities •Component leader collects information sent by country correspondents	•TPG or regional correspondents are in charge to create a dialogue in stakeholders in order to identify and validate each regional participation •European collaborations of the 9 regions are investigated through Social Network analysis tools	•Component leader TPG and stakeholders develop a common approach to draw an approach of a first methodology to assess regional participation in European programmes. The use of the Component 2 results regarding headquarters effects and the analysis of specificities of R&D&I systems of each European countries is crucial	•Indicators and information provided by C2 are analysed by country correspondents (Trend, Specialisation, actors strengthening). •Correlation between programmes is examined (leverage effect of SF on FP participation for example) •Analysis is completed by patents and clusters analysis	•Synthesis and comparison at R&D sectors level and at interregional level
Key methodologies and analyses to be used (see Chapter 3)	•Regional Innovation System analysis	•Social Network Analysis •Headquarters effect correction		•Patent analysis, Cluster analysis, Impact analysis of EU R&D policies on regions	•Drawing up of comparative review and synthesizing analyses, digesting of findings, etc.

2.4 Outline description of methodologies involved

The scientific approach of the ESPON AMCER project is based around the following methodologies.

- Regional Innovation System
- Gathering, matching and cleaning of EU Commission contracts databases;
- Headquarter effect correction;
- R&D Budget breakdown calculation;
- Social network analysis for Framework Programmes and CIP;
- Impact assessment of EU R&D policies on regions;
- Region profiling;
- EU funding profiling;
- Cluster Analysis.

Regional Innovation System

The **RIS concept** is a normative and descriptive approach aimed at capturing how technological development takes place within a territory. Its popularity reflects the heightened interest in the regional, i.e. sub-national, business environment for inter-active innovation processes (systemic innovation). It has since become a central paradigm for the analysis of regional potential and the design of policies to promote knowledge-based regional development (Revilla Diez/Kiese 2006).

Analysis of EU contract databases

Gathering, matching and cleaning of European Commission contracts databases: A general statement of the regional participation in FP6, FP7, CIP and ERDF for each of the 9 regions will be produced, taking data from EC databases and local (regional) monitoring sources. Matching activity between the local and the central information sources should provide reliable and normalised indicators for each region. The AMCER project will interact horizontally with the 9 selected regions. The horizontal communication is characterized by the matching between regional information and contracts information in order to obtain a reliable list of regional participations. The verified regional participations will then be aggregated to produce regional indicators (Component 2).

Headquarters effect correction

As European research programmes are growing (Framework Programme, CIP or ERDF), more and more responsibilities are transferred to Regions. According to official contracts databases, regional participation to European projects is often associated to the region where the headquarters company/institution carrying out the research is located. However it may be that in reality the work performed is completed in a different region. This effect is partially depending on the political structure of each country and the main research stakeholders (large research organisms, large companies).

R&D Budget breakdown calculation

From the data gathered on regional participations under the previous task, indicators and budget breakdowns will be calculated (Component 2). Regional participations and budgets for FP, CIP, and SF are then distributed into R&D sectors (an adapted FP7 taxonomy can be used for that) at intra-regional level (NUTS 3 generally) in order to obtain a first set of comprehensive and aggregated indicators. By type of participant (HES, RES, Companies and other) the following indicators can be provided: EC contribution, total cost, number of participations, number of coordinations, etc.).

Social Network Analysis for FP and CIP:

Definition of network analysis

In order to get a view on the main European networks in which regional stakeholders are involved, social network analysis will be used with regard to participations in FP and CIP programmes. It will be tested with data from the 9 participating regions as a step towards a more full-fledged database and methodology to search, analyze and monitor regional participations and harvesting from EU R&D programmes.

The tool will be used among others to identify the regional key players in R&D systems and the structuring impact of European programmes on regional research actors. Also the main coordinators of regional research activities and actors will be identified in order to unravel inter-regional strategies they deploy or to which they are subjected to.

In principle, the best basis for this analysis will be the participations in the Framework programmes. Therefore, a direct comparison between participations in FP6 and FP7 in each R&D sector and on behalf of each region will be drawn up.

The objectives of SNA in AMCER

The aim of a Social Network Analysis (SNA) is to develop a mapping of collaboration patterns in the FP; both between project participants and between regions and countries involved. This is instrumental in assessing the impact of the programme in building the ERA. It contributes to answering some of the efficiency and effectiveness evaluation questions, especially for synergies and cooperation criteria. SNA is a tool which is particularly relevant to the FP given its aim to develop collaboration between European organisations. The network analysis reveals key players (regions or legal entities) and core groups around which the research is structured. These analyses and the resulting maps can be carried out at two levels: the level of participants and the level of regions.

SNA gives an analysis at the programme level (programme dynamics from one call to the other, cooperation patterns, inclusion of less developed regions through mentors, etc.) and an analysis of the participation of FP participants in

other key European initiatives (Europe Innova networks, ProInno Cluster Networks, INTERREG IVC). It reveals the main players (institutions and regions) in these different trans-regional programmes and eventual complementarities, synergies, gaps and overlaps between them.

More generally, the SNA allows the assessment of:
•The extent to which the EU programmes contribute to building the ERA through the implementation of trans-regional research projects;
•The degree of integration of regions and the evolution of participation of regions with different research profiles around a core group of regions;

More precisely the analysis will allow the mapping of:
•The links between regional research driven clusters and their partners;
•The evolution in the ERA of the synergies created;
•The regional main players and collaboration patterns.

Impact Assessment

In the context of the ESPON AMCER project, the study of impact of the 9 stakeholders regions participation in EU RDI programmes will be focussed on an assessment of various aspects (SNA, cooperation, patent, etc.) which will provide insight for the EU and the regions in the management and monitoring of such programmes.

Therefore the result of this component should not be considered as a technical ex post impact evaluation (see p16-17 of the project specification). Also it will not aim at evaluating the RDI regional policies of the region participating in the AMCER project.

The cluster analysis will identify the agglomerations of economic activity that are particularly significant in each of the nine regions. This will provide a basis for comparative analysis with the data gathered in project Component 2 on the distribution of R&D subsidies from FP6/7 and CIP programmes, enabling an exploration of the relationship between specialisation and EU public-policy support in R&D over time.

Estimates of impacts will be based on approximations, in terms of additionality of: INPUTs, i.e. more investment and R&D than there would be without EU funding; OUTPUTs, such as employment in research clusters and patents, and Behavioural additionality, i.e. the extent to which networking and cooperation have been stimulated within and beyond the region and across different levels of the R&D chain.

In a second stage, qualitative data, i.e. case studies and questionnaires, may be carried out with the support of the regional partners and further improve our understanding on the impact of the regional funds at the micro level and in terms of regional networking.

3 Presentation of main results achieved so far

3.1 Component 1 Mapping the regional contexts

Against the theoretical backdrop of the respective regional innovation and R&D systems, the main goal of the first Component is a synthesis of the R&D and territorial challenges at regional level for each of the nine case-study regions involved in the AMCER-project.

Based on secondary data, reports, and expert information the Component provide an analysis and assessment of the regional R&D systems (using traditional STI indicators) and their territorial trends and challenges.

The result of component is a synthesis report including a description of the 9 AMCER regions R&D systems and their socio-economic framework. The report includes a list of findings which will serve as a basis for further analysis in the subsequent components of the project.

The synthesis report was submitted by LP to ESPON CU as a project delivery in parallel to the revised Inception Report on 31 January 2012, and subsequently distributed to SH. It was the object of a detailed presentation made to Stakeholders by Hannover University representatives at the Steering Committee meeting held on 16 February 2012. In the ensuing exchange of views the Stakeholders welcomed the report.

The synthesis report is attached the present report at annex 1 with a view to its submission to ESPON Monitoring Committee.

3.1.1 Objectives

Within the AMCER project the *first component´s main goal* is to provide general insights into the RTDI systems in regions by compiling a synthesis of the R&D systems and territorial challenges at the regional level for each of the nine case-study regions involved.

Component 1 provides *an overview* about the 9 AMCER regions and thus serves as a *basis for further analyses and interpretations* with respect to headquarter effects, regional clusters and specialisation, relations and cooperation (within the regions and among the actors) as well as with regard to the final impact assessments of R&D support programmes in the following components.

Ultimately, and in addition to the work and analyses to be carried out by the other components of the AMCER project, the synthesis report of Component 1, would highlight the need for the EU and the regions to enhance monitoring of R&D funding, its results and impact, as well as the relevant regional structures.

For the purpose to better understand the respective regions' features in a national and European context as well as to illustrate the heterogeneity among the AMCER regions, a comparative approach is applied to the extent possible. However, since the regions are showing great differences e.g. in size and population, direct comparisons would lead to reasonability and reliability distortions. On this account comparisons between the regions have always been put in these contexts.

To better understand the description of the regional R&D systems, the regions' socio-economic framework conditions have been outlined, showing that the regional economic areas with respect to their structures and performances are very heterogeneous. These differences can also be found for the regions' R&D systems.

3.1.2 First Component´s Aim

The overall objective of the first component within the AMCER project is to synthesise data about the territorial and R&D systems of the nine regions involved. Thus, the first component gives an overview about the regions and forms the basis for further analyses. On the one side, it outlines the elaboration of the theoretical and analytical framework as well as the research approach of Component 1, and on the other side, presents the analyses of the AMCER regions. In the course of the analysis, there is also important to point out the region-specific strengths and weaknesses as well as the existing diversity. In the meantime, the report gives a review of the main literature and data sources.

Against the backdrop of results regarding the impact of R&D policies on regional R&D systems and territorial cohesion, the main goal of the first component within the AMCER project is to provide general insights into the participating regions' RTDI systems. Focusing on regions, the insights will be developed by compiling a synthesis of the R&D systems and territorial challenges at the regional level for each of the nine case-study regions involved in the AMCER project. Based on secondary data, reports, and expert information, the component will provide an analysis and assessment of the regional R&D systems (using traditional STI indicators) and their territorial trends and challenges.

It should be noted that patent analysis is not a task to be performed within Component 1. However, patent data has been used in the context of the synthesis report in order to show innovation potentials within the regions.

3.1.3 Synthesis report

Within the AMCER project, the first component´s main goal is to provide general insights into the RTDI systems of the regions, by compiling a synthesis of the R&D systems and territorial challenges at the regional level for each of the nine case-study regions involved.

The Report provides an overview of the situation in the nine regions and notably an analysis based on the Regional Innovation Systems approach.

For its preparation, a comparative approach has been applied to the extent possible, while taking into account regional and national specificities. It is based on secondary data, reports, and expert information.

The report provides **overall findings** for each of the sectors reviewed, namely general socio-economic characteristics, the situation concerning RTDI, including human capital and the potential for innovation; RTDI governance and policies; public and private actors as well as the overall trends and challenges affecting the regional R&D systems.

It also provides **conclusions on the Regional Innovation System (RIS)** for each of the nine regions.

3.1.4 Main findings

Regarding ***economic output****,* the strongest regions are Flanders and Ostrobothnia, followed by Tuscany, PACA, East of England, Catalonia, Lower Saxony, Brittany, and Andalusia. Except for Andalusia, all regions are above the EU-27 per capita GDP average.

The regional ***economic structures*** and their specialisations vary. Although all regions are shaped by service activities, in some cases industrial sectors or industry-related services play a more significant role. This is the case for Catalonia, Ostrobothnia, Tuscany, Lower Saxony, Flanders and the East of England. Other regions are focussed rather on agriculture, tourism and related activities, and have little industrial tradition (e.g. Andalusia, Brittany, PACA).

Except of Lower Saxony, all regions suffer from the rise of ***unemployment*** rates due to the ongoing economic and financial crisis. However, even though much of this increase arose from effects of the crisis, more specific unemployment figures such as long-term and youth unemployment suggest that in most regions there would be an urgent need to apply structural reforms.

R&D-related indicators indicate that East of England currently is the region where the R&D activity is most intensive among the AMCER regions. Other regions that are relatively active and above, or at least in line with, the EU average are Ostrobothnia, Lower Saxony, Flanders, and PACA. These regions already put a relatively strong emphasis on knowledge-driven development, at least in some key sectors. Brittany and Catalonia increasingly trying to foster their regional potentials, but suffer from structural weaknesses. Tuscany and Andalusia are the regions with the lowest R&D performance; even though also these regions have existing potentials (see App. Tab. 6). Moreover, East of England is by far the most *technologically sophisticated* region, followed by Flanders. Catalonia, Ostrobothnia, Brittany, PACA, and Lower Saxony are relatively medium-high to high-tech oriented. Tuscany and Andalusia have few technologically exposed sectors; however, most activities are in low-tech fields.

The education of the ***human capital*** forms the basis for productive and innovative activities. In general, there is not much difference in the relative numbers of tertiary level students. However, Ostrobothnia has a very marked advantage regarding the number of higher education students, whereas Lower Saxony has by far the lowest figures. Despite East of England´s rather average values in terms of human capital, the region benefits i.a. from the presence of an excellent HES (i.e. Cambridge University). The figures for early leavers generally show positive development. The Spanish regions have by far the highest share. Flanders and Brittany have the lowest figures. In addition, the further education of adults plays an important role. In this area, most regions have values below the European mean. The French regions PACA and Brittany have the lowest figures; whereas Ostrobothnia and East of England show by far the highest participation share.

Potentials for innovation are very unevenly distributed between the regions. The highest relative values are held by Ostrobothnia, Lower Saxony, Flanders, and East of England. Andalusia´s figures are very low, reflecting the region´s weaknesses in knowledge and technology creation, although some significant efforts have been undertaken. However, the productivity of R&D shows a more mixed picture: Brittany and Lower Saxony seem to have the most effective R&D system, whereas East of England´s and Andalusia´s R&D systems are relatively ineffective.

The regions show 3 main types of ***governance structures***, with some being more centrally-led (e.g. Ostrobothnia, East of England, Brittany, PACA), others with federal characteristics (Lower Saxony, Flanders) or a mixture of both (Andalusia, Catalonia, Tuscany). By dependence on these structures, all regions follow some kind of RTDI policy support programmes. However, in general, the different structures are accompanied by different RIS approaches, with specific characteristics as well as related trends and challenges.

The share of ***public and private actors*** participation within the R&D systems varies, generally reflecting different economic or research setups (see App. Tab. 6). With regard to the innovation system approach, the proportion of R&D performed by the business sector (BERD) is an indicator of the overall innovative capacity of a region. The regions Ostrobothnia, East of England, Lower Saxony, Flanders, Brittany, Catalonia, and PACA are dominated by the business sphere. Nonetheless, also there the public sphere plays an important, often complementary role. Tuscany and Andalusia are much more shaped by the public sphere, as the business sector there is sufficient initiate and carry out RTDI activities by itself.

Within the business sector, ***large foreign and national companies*** often play a major role in the RTDI processes, although all the regional economies are ***greatly characterised by SMEs***. This is mainly due to underdeveloped business innovation cultures, limited absorptive capacities, and low emphases on technological aspects as well as other barriers limiting the efforts of SMEs to conduct R&D. This gap is problematic since SMEs are significant providers of employment and their RTDI activities can have a sustainable impact on regional competitiveness and wealth. In turn, in regions that are highly dependent on RTDI activities of MNEs and large national players (e.g. PACA,

East of England, Lower Saxony, Ostrobothnia, Brittany, Flanders), this situation could lead to regional dependencies on location decisions of often globally (re-)acting companies. Additionally, some regions such as Brittany, PACA, Catalonia, and Andalusia are likely to suffer more from *headquarter bias* because big companies and research organisation often do not have their headquarters in these regions.

Trends and challenges: despite the current economic and financial crisis, the regions which have already managed to build up a knowledge-driven regional economy (at least to a certain degree) are likely to have better, more sustainable, and less volatile growth perspectives (e.g. Ostrobothnia, East of England, etc).

A further challenge is the rise of general unemployment and the long-term and youth unemployment figures that remain high in most of the regions (e.g. Catalonia, Andalusia, etc.). The population development and the Demographic Change are challenging all the regions studied. The regions are facing lower population growth, demographic ageing, and outmigration. The availability of human capital (secondary and tertiary education) is often satisfactory. However most regions are confronted with high numbers of early leavers and a low participation rate of adults in further education (e.g. Tuscany, PACA).

Furthermore, except East of England, all regions need to increase their R&D capabilities (some most urgently, such as Andalusia, Tuscany, Catalonia, and Brittany). Additional spending and personnel will help to strengthen the competitiveness of the regions in terms of knowledge and technology production. Moreover, in some regions (e.g. Andalusia, Tuscany, Lower Saxony) the structural change towards a more diversified and knowledge based economy has to be fostered. Existing potentials in high-tech sectors have to be strengthened. For this, SMEs play a crucial role. But so far, SMEs in the AMCER regions are not so strongly involved in innovation activities. Additionally, the link between businesses and research institutions is in some cases rather weak (e.g. Tuscany, Catalonia, Brittany, PACA, and Andalusia). More support is needed to support and encourage SMEs to conduct R&D.

3.1.5 General Conclusion

The regions involved in the AMCER project show 3 main types of governance structures, with some being more centrally-led (e.g. Ostrobothnia, East of England, Brittany, PACA), others with federal characteristics (Lower Saxony, Flanders) or a mixture of both (Andalusia, Catalonia, Tuscany). By dependence on these structures, all regions follow some kind of RTDI policy support programmes. However, in general, the different structures are accompanied by different RIS approaches with specific characteristics as well as related trends and challenges:

Lower Saxony: RIS exhibits a network governance dimension and a mixture of a globalised and an interactive business innovation dimension. RTDI

support takes place on different levels. Funding is guided and assessed by various actors, research competences are quite broad in nature and the private business sector provides most of the overall research activities. In this effort, however, it is supported by a broad mix of public and private research institutes. The business sector is highly dominated by large, local companies from the automotive or related sectors. Of those, most have their headquarters in the region but are active globally and are supported by clustered supply chains of rather dependent SMEs. However, since the region is aware of the need for SME strengthening and sector diversification in order to sustain long-term growth, the regional policy initiatives are often addressed to SMEs and high-tech sectors apart from automotive.

Tuscany: RIS exhibits a grassroots governance dimension and a localist business innovation dimension. Knowledge and technology transfer processes are generated and organized mainly on the local level, funding is highly diffuse in origin and shaped by a very low supra-local or national coordination. Research competences are rather limited in the business sector and highly developed in the public sector. The business sector is dominated by a vast proportion of local SMEs from traditional sectors with a quite low research reach and low research resources. A few major local public research institutions have relatively high research resources and capabilities. However, co-operations between both spheres are difficult, because there is a mismatch between the industrial sector structure, its capabilities for research and innovation, and the fields in which the public research institutions are active. However, the region tries to improve a) the linkage between the traditional sectors and the research actors´ needs, and b) the creation of firms in advanced sectors, capable of innovations and research co-operations.

East of England: RIS shows a mixture of a network and a dirigiste governance dimension and a combination of a globalised and an interactive business innovation dimension. Institutional support is initiated mainly at the regional level, however, the regional level has no legislative power and its responsibilities regarding innovation and research are limited. Most research and innovation related policies are developed and implemented at the national level, with some national innovation policies delivered regionally via EEDA and its diverse sub-contractors. Nevertheless, the national and the regional actors are highly connected and cooperate on a regular basis. Funding is largely determined centrally, with decentralized units in the region. Research competences are quite broad in nature, due to the extended regional private and public research landscape. The region is clearly business oriented. Although many global and large companies conduct their R&D activities in the region, the proportion between large firms and SMEs active in that field is rather balanced. Even though the business sector contributes by far the biggest share in research and innovation, the public sector is of great importance for the region. The East of England captures significant levels of public investments into R&D and is the location for several centres of international research excellence. In order to strengthen further the region's favourable position, the political actors aim to increase both the existence and foundation of network initiatives.

Andalusia: RIS has a network governance dimension with some grassroots features, and a localist business innovation dimension. The support of RTDI activities takes place on different levels. Funding is guided and assessed by numerous public and private actors. The region's research competences are relatively broad in nature, although the output is comparatively low. Andalusia is highly dependent on a few major local public research organisations with relatively high research resources. The business sector currently is not capable to participate in R&D. It is dominated to a large degree by local SMEs with insufficient research reach and resources. In general, Andalusian firms are rather process- than product innovation oriented. Technology production is strongly concentrated on a small number of enterprises and capable universities. There is a mismatch between the industrial sector structure, and its capabilities for research and innovation and the fields in which the public research institutions are active. There is a clear need for a greater involvement of the private sector in the governance of the regional R&D system, especially at the level of research and technology infrastructures and facilities, where public-private cooperation should act as a driver. As for business association, Andalusia has already shown some development. However, in order to further enhance the association among the public research sector and the wider business sphere, there is a need to a) improve the link between the traditional sectors and the research actors and, b) accelerate the formation of medium- and large-sized firms from modern sectors, capable of innovations and research co-operations.

Catalonia: RIS exhibits a network governance dimension with some grassroots features, and an interactive business innovation dimension with globalised traits. Governmental support happens on different levels, funding is guided and assessed by various actors. Research competences are relatively broad in nature. The private business sector provides most of the overall research activities. The region has a dense community of SMEs, often forming local production systems, but also an active presence of MNEs. Catalonia´s local production systems contribute significantly to the knowledge and technology production, although this is limited to rather incremental and low-tech oriented activities. Nevertheless, most technologically advanced research and innovation activities are conducted by a small group of firms (often larger enterprises or MNEs) in only a few sectors. Universities are the most important public research and innovation actors but, due to their focus on knowledge generation rather than its exploitation and their problems in conducting knowledge transfers, their overall influence is limited and could be improved. Although the Catalonian output ranks at the top of the Spanish regions, it is comparatively low in international comparison. In the end, the gap between the HES and the BES - between research and innovation - explains the region´s comparatively weak performance, although the infrastructure is well developed. In order to address the weak points, the political actors try to influence the existence and foundation of network initiatives.

Flanders has a RIS with a networked governance dimension and a mixture of globalised and interactive business innovation dimension. The initiation of RTDI measures takes place on different levels, funding is guided and

assessed by numerous public and private actors and the research competences are broad in nature. The region has an extended private and public research landscape, with the BES shaping R&D activities. The BES is highly dominated by large companies of those most are active globally and supported by clustered supply chains of often dependent SMEs. Although SMEs are the main providers employment in the region and the public innovation structure also aims to support knowledge and technology production in SMEs, their potential for innovation remains limited. Flanders is active in a broad field of sectors and is eager to further develop its economic and sectoral structure in order to stay competitive in the long-term and to ensure future prospects.

Ostrobothnia: RIS exhibits a network governance dimension with dirigiste features and an interactive business innovation dimension with globalised traits. RTDI measures are initiated on different levels and funding is mostly determined, guided and assessed centrally, with decentralized implementation units located in the region. The Ostrobothnian research competences are broad in nature, due to the extended region's private and public research landscape. R&D is highly shaped by the BES, however, especially the HES is of high importance for the Ostrobothnian RTDI activities. The R&D activities are dominated by large companies. Many of those are active internationally and supported by clustered supply chains of often dependent SMEs. Generally, the research and innovation system is quite strongly specialized in environmental friendly technologies and energy production. Moreover, most activities are concentrated in the capital Vaasa. Although SMEs are the main providers of employment in the region, their potential for innovation is often comparatively limited.

PACA: RIS shows a network governance system with dirigiste features and a globalised business innovation dimension. RTDI support takes place on different levels. The regulation of competences between PACA and the national level, as well as the role of the different actors, is ensured by the state-region contract. Although in this way PACA has a certain degree of autonomy, the state level is still very active in the region in research and innovation. PACA's research competences are quite broad in nature, but R&D activities are highly influenced by the BES. The BES, however, is highly dominated by large extra-regional and often foreign enterprises, supported by a network of SMEs operating as subcontractors or suppliers. The actors are specialized in medium-high and high-tech activities and highly spatially concentrated. Most SMEs have rather limited abilities to participate in research and innovation activities and the region generally lacks SMEs of intermediate size. Although research and innovation is largely internal and private rather than public, the public sphere as well as its infrastructure is of great importance for the overall attractiveness of the region. However, the region suffers from a persistent gap between R&D actors (public and private) and the wider business sphere. The regional authorities are aware of the weaknesses in terms of research and innovation activities of the local SMEs. Therefore, they have developed measures in order to address these problems and the resulting gap between research and the overall economic sector or production system.

Brittany: RIS exhibits a network governance dimension with dirigiste features and a localist business innovation dimension. RTDI support takes place on different levels. The regulation of competences between Brittany and the national level, as well as the role of the different actors is ensured by the state-region contract. Although in this way Brittany has a certain degree of autonomy, the state level is still very active in the region in research and innovation. Brittany's research competences are relatively broad in nature, however, the region's R&D system is highly dominated by a few large indigenous enterprises from only a few sectors, whereas foreign enterprises play hardly any role. Most SMEs have rather limited abilities to participate in research and innovation activities. The actors are specialized in medium-high and high-tech activities and are spatially concentrated in four major clusters. In general, the innovation culture of the BES within Brittany is not considerable and there is the still insufficient linkage between the HES and the BES, as well as the region-based innovative clusters ('poles of competitiveness'). Furthermore, the regional BES lacks international openness. Finally, the large-scale businesses conducting RTDI activities within Brittany do not have their headquarters located within the region.

3.2 Component 2 General statement of the regional participation in FP, CIP, ERDF

Component 2 aims at providing a list and breakdown of EU R&D investments at regional level in the nine stakeholder regions. For this purpose the following tasks has been carried out (or are still ongoing):

- Initial data collection and methodological refinement.
- Design of templates and selection of indicators for data mining.
- Matching and cleaning vis-à-vis central EC database contents.
- Analysis of the EU R&D budget and projects breakdown (ERDF, FP and CIP) per region.
- Assessment and analysis of the collaborative links developed by stakeholders involved in projects funded by FP6/FP7 and CIP.

3.2.1 Context and challenges

In the context of European programmes (Framework Programme, CIP or ERDF), which concern R&D and Innovation, EU regions need to take more and more responsibilities. For this reason, the EU regions have to develop their own Regional innovation strategies. EC is not for now in a position to provide directly to the regions an overall picture, including comprehensive data, regarding their effective participation in the respective EU programmes. According to official EU contracts databases, a regional participation is often located in the capital city. This effect depends partially of the research and innovation frame of each country and the nature of main research stakeholders (large research organisms, large companies, etc.).

The need for reliable indicators to measure the funding received by regional research organisations and the impact of regional, national and European programmes at regional level are crucial for the following reasons:

- Regions are trying to perform their own FP assessment by collecting information from local stakeholders;
- Analyses and monitoring achieved by each region are difficult to compare between each other without common rules and definitions nor a global checking procedure. A common and agreed methodology could be useful to obtain reliable and comparable indicators for the 9 regions involved in the study.

Figure 2: Brief definition of the headquarters effect and the inflow/outflow model

The headquarter effect occurs when the legal entity who signed a contract with the European Commission and the research implementation funded by the project is not localized at the same place.

From the analysis of contract database, three cases can be distinguished:

According the type of the participant and project, the place where the contract has been signed and the research activities are performed may be different. 4 cases are possible:

1. There is no headquarters effect. The participation reported in the EC database is located on the same territory where the research is performed.
2. There is an Ingoing headquarter effect when the research is performed in the targeted region AND the headquarter localised OUT of the targeted region. These participations have to be added to the regional assessment.
3. There is an outgoing headquarters effect when the research is performed IN the targeted region (your region) AND the headquarter localised OUT of the targeted region THEN it is an INGOING participation. The participations have to be subtracted of the regional assessment.

3.2.2 Data collection and checking (Task 2.2.1 of the proposal)

3.2.2.1 Availability of information according to EU programmes

The methodology employed and the results obtained depend on the availability of the database and the willingness of the unit of the European Commission in charge of the different programmes (and sub programmes). The methodology used to match regional and "official" information is also linked to the information written in the project database in terms of quality (eg. participant checking...) and quantity (e.g. additional information about geographical localisation).

R&D Framework programme (FP)

Concerning FP data, priority is given to research and analysis of FP7, which is likely to provide the most interesting and relevant information for the SH. Information concerning FP6 is taken into consideration as appropriate for historical/background purposes FP7 data compiled for each participating region circulated to Stakeholders region for validation and verification, notably to identify certain recipients in their respective regions; verify cases of "suspicious participation" i.e. for beneficiaries where laboratory is located in another region than the HQ. Verify some participants registered as SMEs, etc.

Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) 2007-2013

With small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) as its main target, the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) supports innovation activities (including eco-innovation), provides better access to finance and delivers business support services in the regions. It encourages a better take-up and use of information and communication technologies (ICT) and helps to develop the information society. It also promotes the increased use of renewable energies and energy efficiency.

The CIP runs from 2007 to 2013 with an overall budget of € 3.621 million.

The CIP is divided into three operational programmes. Each programme has its specific objectives, aimed at contributing to the competitiveness of enterprises and their innovative capacity in their own areas, such as ICT or sustainable energy:

- The Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP) This part of the CIP programme is not relevant for AMCER activities.
- The Information Communication Technologies Policy Support Programme (ICT-PSP)
- The intelligent energy Europe programme (IEE)

The Information Communication Technologies Policy Support Programme (ICT-PSP)

The Information Communication Technologies Policy Support Programme (ICT-PSP) has a total budget of EUR 728 million. It supports operational demonstrations of technological and organisational solutions for ICT-based services at the EU level, by providing funding to develop solutions for challenges particularly in interoperability, identity management, and security.

ICT-PSP pillar is structured around four main themes including: eGovernment, eHealth, eInclusion and eEfficiency. Three main types of projects are funded: Pilots type A, Pilots type B, and Thematic Networks. ICT PSP is managed by DG Information Society and Media.

The Intelligent Energy Europe Programme (IEE)

The Intelligent Energy – Europe Programme (IEE) has a EUR 727 million budget in total. Main areas of support within the IEE pillar include energy efficiency, new and renewable energy sources, and technological solutions for reducing greenhouse gas emission from the transportation sector.

IEE II is managed by DG Transport and Energy; and large parts of IEE II are delegated to EACI.

ERDF dedicated to research and innovation

The ERDF aims to strengthen economic and social cohesion in the European Union by correcting imbalances between its regions.

The ERDF can intervene in the three objectives of regional policy:

- Convergence;
- **Regional Competitiveness and Employment;**
- European Territorial Cooperation.

Measures related to research and Innovation that can be supported through the ERDF include:

- Direct aid to investments in companies (in particular SMEs) to create sustainable jobs;
- Infrastructures linked notably to research and innovation, telecommunications, environment, energy and transport;
- Financial instruments (capital risk funds, local development funds, etc., managed through EIB) to support regional and local development and to foster cooperation between towns and regions;
- Technical assistance measures.

Regarding Structural Funds, they are related to research and innovation to varying degrees. Each European region manages normally the ERDF budget and monitors the ERDF funding uptake through structured databases. ERDF database structures depend normally on the country. In the case of the Structural Fund programmes, we will undertake a programme level analysis, identifying the nature of Structural Fund activities currently targeted on R&D. The role of TPG and stakeholders will be crucial to achieve this task.

Data related to EU Social Fund is not in the scope of the project activities and its inclusion would not be possible at this stage for reasons of accessibility, relevance and comparability of the data.

Figure 3: Overview of EU data sources and relation with stakeholder regions

Programmes	Main characteristics of the EC Contracts database	Requested actions of the regions for the matching	Quality of the regional analysis
FP6 **FP6 contracts**	**Quality : relatively rich but not reliable** **Description:** FP6 database contains the participation information with only the headquarter localisation. Some information regarding participants need to be checked (eg SME) because not validated by the EC **Improvement/ recommendation**: EC improved considerably the quality of the information	**Requested involvement: Necessary** **Description:** The matching between regional analysis and FP database is requested in order to produce a complete assessment of the participation of the region in the FP6.	**Reliable**
FP7 FP7 contracts database (ms Access)	**Quality : rich and relatively reliable** **Description :** FP7 database contains 2 types of information regarding the localisation of a participation : -Information about headquarter localisation - Information about Research department localisation These 2 information allow a first headquarter analysis (ingoing/outgoing participations) without the intervention of the region. The characteristic of participation is validated by the EC services (Eg SME identification) **Improvement/ recommendation:** Some information regarding Research department localisation may be missing. EC should pay attention to this field.	**Requested involvement: useful but not necessary** **Description:** Region have only access to online E Corda database without research department information. Regions cannot correct the headquarter by themselves Region intervention is useful to share the information obtained with the database exploration. The role of region to validate and correct the possible mistakes in the contract database	Reliable
CIP-ICT-PSP	**Quality : relatively rich but not reliable** **Description:** CIP database contains the same information as FP6 database. Only the headquarter localisation (NUTS3) is provided. Some information regarding participants need to be checked (eg SME) because not validated by the EC **Improvement/recommendation**: EC should adopt the FP7 database structure for the CIP-ICT-PSP database. **Improvement/Recommendation**: see FP7	**Requested involvement: necessary/useful** **Description:** The matching between regional analysis and FP database is requested in order to produce a complete assessment of the participation of the region in the sub-programme. The number of participations is relatively low and information can easily be checked by the region.	**Reliable**
CIP-IEE	**Quality: Poor** **Description:** The CIP IEE database does not contain normalized information such as NUTS codes and country code Database does not contain information regarding participants (eg, SME, type of legal entity...)	**Requested involvement: necessary** **Description:** region is necessary to localise the participant in the database.	Unknown
ERDF	**Quality: rich but not available** ERDF database is managed at national level. The information provided is rich and reliable regarding the funding and the participant information. The information regarding output and impact is not reliable and is too much dependent of the region itself to be useful	**Requested involvement: Not necessary** **Description:** AMCER uses information provided by the Annual implementation report with are validated by the EC	Unknown

The heterogeneity of the information provided in each database the information provided by the contracts databases. The Framework programme, FP6 and FP7 contracts database are known and will be used.

Information regarding European collaboration is provided for each theme with regional maps and the structuring effect of FP for the regional stakeholders is shown by Social Network Analysis.

3.2.3 Design of template (Task 2.2.2 of the proposal)

In order to implement the communication between TPG and AMCER Excel sheet templates have been designed to set a common framework for each of the 9 regions and to ease the comparison between them.

These templates have been designed jointly with TPG and AMCER participants.

Each of the 9 regions has received beginning of March 2012 an invitation to fill up a template for each programme covered by AMCER.
The 1st template concerns FP7
The 2nd template concerns FP6
The 3rd template concerns CIP-ICT-PSP
And the 4th template concerns ErDF programme dedicated to research and innovation.

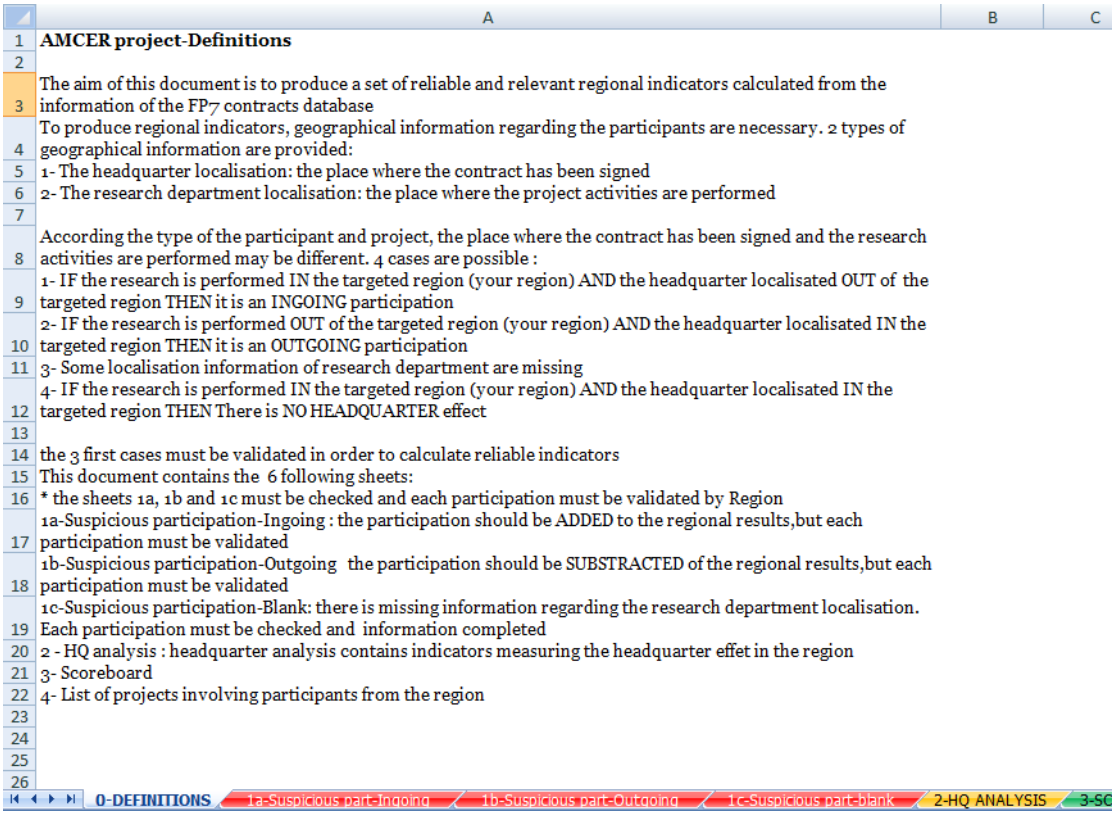
The FP7 and CIP-ICT templates contain both the same sheets:

This document contains the 6 following sheets:

- Sheet 1a-Suspicious participation-Ingoing: the participation should be ADDED to the regional results but each participation must be validated
- Sheet 1b-Suspicious participation-Outgoing: the participation should be SUBSTRACTED of the regional results but each participation must be validated
- Sheet 1c-Suspicious participation-Blank: there is missing information regarding the research department localisation. Each participation must be checked and information completed
- Sheet 2 - HQ analysis: headquarter analysis contains indicators measuring the headquarter effect in the region
- Sheet 3- Scoreboard
- Sheet 4- List of projects involving participants from the region

The sheets 1a, 1b and 1c must be checked and each participation must be validated by Region.

Figure 4: Introduction page of the template sent to the 9 stakeholder regions



	A	B	C
1	**AMCER project-Definitions**		
2			
3	The aim of this document is to produce a set of reliable and relevant regional indicators calculated from the information of the FP7 contracts database		
4	To produce regional indicators, geographical information regarding the participants are necessary. 2 types of geographical information are provided:		
5	1- The headquarter localisation: the place where the contract has been signed		
6	2- The research department localisation: the place where the project activities are performed		
7			
8	According the type of the participant and project, the place where the contract has been signed and the research activities are performed may be different. 4 cases are possible :		
9	1- IF the research is performed IN the targeted region (your region) AND the headquarter localisated OUT of the targeted region THEN it is an INGOING participation		
10	2- IF the research is performed OUT of the targeted region (your region) AND the headquarter localisated IN the targeted region THEN it is an OUTGOING participation		
11	3- Some localisation information of research department are missing		
12	4- IF the research is performed IN the targeted region (your region) AND the headquarter localisated IN the targeted region THEN There is NO HEADQUARTER effect		
13			
14	the 3 first cases must be validated in order to calculate reliable indicators		
15	This document contains the 6 following sheets:		
16	* the sheets 1a, 1b and 1c must be checked and each participation must be validated by Region		
17	1a-Suspicious participation-Ingoing : the participation should be ADDED to the regional results,but each participation must be validated		
18	1b-Suspicious participation-Outgoing the participation should be SUBSTRACTED of the regional results,but each participation must be validated		
19	1c-Suspicious participation-Blank: there is missing information regarding the research department localisation. Each participation must be checked and information completed		
20	2 - HQ analysis : headquarter analysis contains indicators measuring the headquarter effet in the region		
21	3- Scoreboard		
22	4- List of projects involving participants from the region		
23			
24			
25			
26			

Figure 5: Example of the xls sheet 1c on the FP7 template for Flanders

REQUESTED VALIDATION (Y/N)	Modification(ingoing/outgoing)	Name of the participant (Headquarter)	Organisation type	Headquarter localisation in EC database	Name of the participant (Research department)	New localisation	Project acronym	FP7 theme
	blank	ActoGeniX N	PRC	BE234	ActoGeniX NV	?	NAIMIT	Health
	blank	Advanced Bi	PRC	BE231	Advanced Biological Technolc	?	VEG-I-TRADE	Food, Agricu
	blank	Advanced Pr	PRC	BE213	Advanced Practical Diagnostic	?	MOODINFLA	Health
	blank	AFM BVBA	PRC	BE211	AFM BVBA	?	ICOOL	Research for
	blank	AGENTSCHA	PUB	BE234	AGENTSCHAP VOOR GEOGRAF	?	HELM	Space
	blank	AGFA-GEVAE	PRC	BE211	AGFA-GEVAERT N.V.	?	CLIP	Research for
	blank	AGFA-GEVAE	PRC	BE211	AGFA-GEVAERT N.V.	?	NAMETECH	Environment
	blank	AKRON NV	PRC	BE242	AKRON NV	?	I-RAIL	Research for

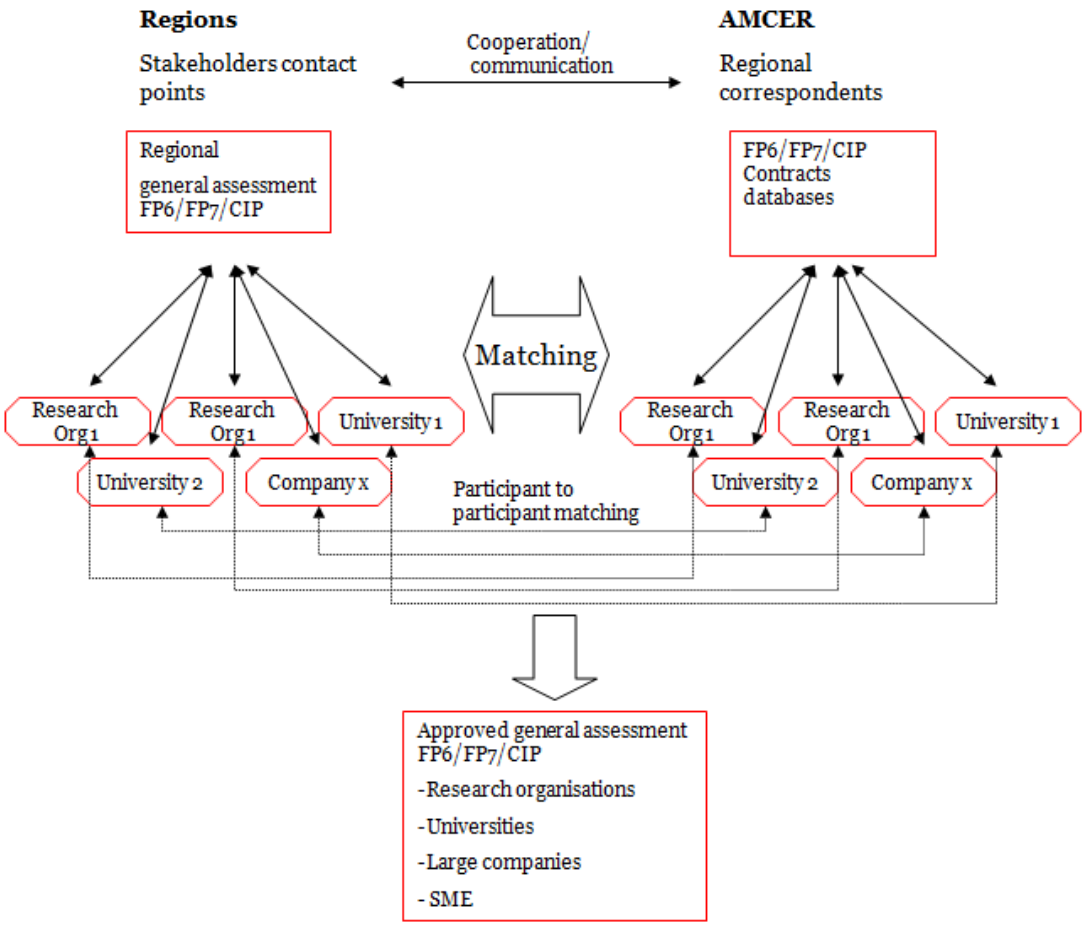
3.2.4 Matching and cleaning of regional information vis-à-vis central EC databases contents (Task 2.2.3 of the proposal)

The matching between official information contained in the EC database and information gathered at regional level represents the core of the methodology.

The regional intervention differs according the quality of the official data. Basically, the methodology needs two different sources: local (regional) monitoring and contract data from EC contract database. The matching between the local and the central information sources should provide reliable and normalised indicators for each region.

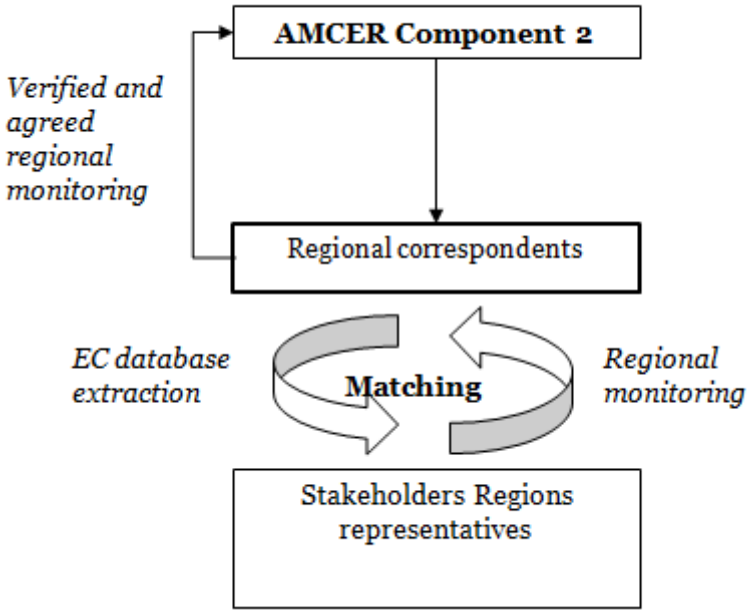
The matching process can be represented by the following exhibit.

Figure 6: General overview of the interactions between actors at regional and AMCER level



The AMCER regional correspondents act as interface in the matching process between the project itself and the stakeholder regions representatives. The following exhibit shows the information flow between the different stakeholders in the matching process.

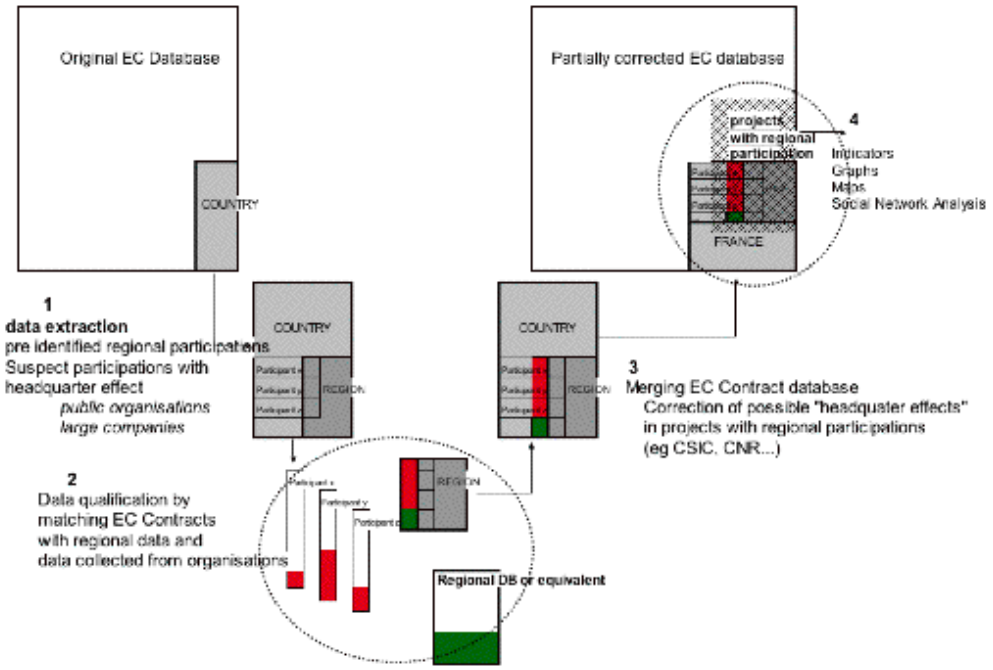
Figure 7: Flowchart of the interaction between AMCER, the regional correspondents and the stakeholders regions



The matching process is linked to the data sources. FP6 and FP7 do not offer the same quality and reliability of information, the consequence two different matching processes. The following exhibit shows the matching process for FP6. A strong link with regional representatives is more than necessary in order to check each regional participation from the extraction of a national database (step 1 and 2). The mandatory condition is the availability regional analysis.

The matching process is appropriate to programmes without research department localisation such as FP6 and CIP.

Figure 8: Technical overview of the data matching for the FP6 and CIP programmes



The following exhibit shows the number of participation of the 9 regions before the matching process.

Figure 9: CIP- ICT participations according to the contracts database

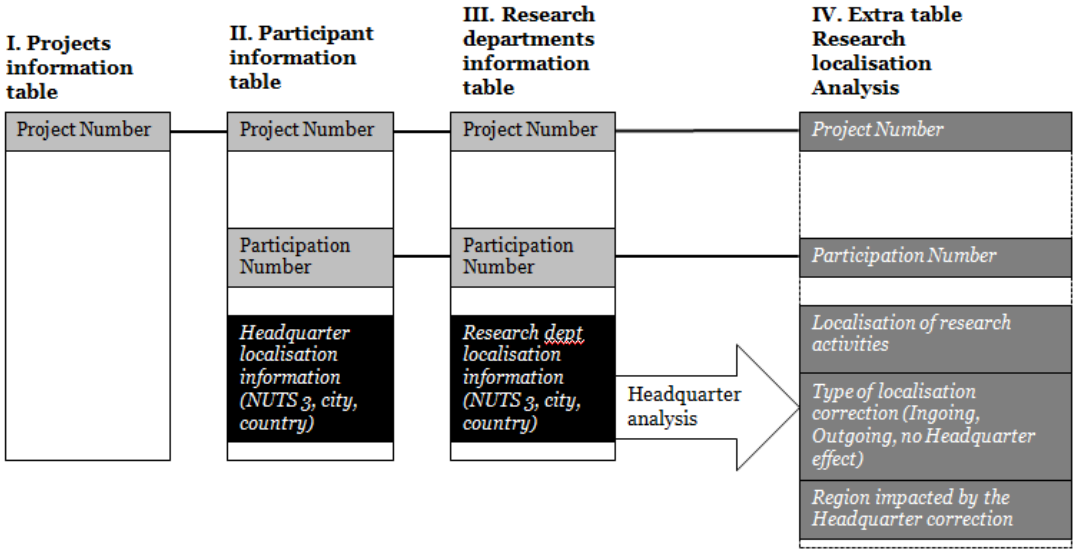
Region	Country (i)	Expected headquarters effect (ii)	Nuts Code (iii)	Nuts Level (iv)	Number of participations according to the headquarter localisation (v)	Number of participations according to the participant department localisation (vi)	Headquarters effect in %[2] Not checked by stakeholders (vii)
ANDALUSIA	ES	Minor	ES61	2	20		
BRETAGNE	FR	Minor	FR52	2	1		
CATALUNIA	ES	Minor	ES51	2	51		
EAST of ENGLAND	UK	Minor	UKH	1	9		
West Finland (OSTROBOTHIA)	FI	Minor	FI19	2	2		
FLANDERS	BE	Minor	BE2	1	53		
NIEDERSACHSEN	DE	Minor	DE9	1	12		
PROVENCE ALPES COTE DAZUR	FR	Minor	FR82	2	11		
TUSCANY	IT	Minor	ITE1	2	18		

The following exhibit shows the process for programme containing localisation information of research department (FP7). It shows the links between the 3

[2] ((column vi)-(column v))/(column vi)

main tables of the FP7 database (I, II, III) and the creation of an extra table to analyse the headquarter effect (IV).

Figure 10: Technical overview of the Headquarter analysis for the FP7 programme



The following exhibit shows the number of participations in the FP7 counted for each of the 9 regions according the headquarters localisation (column v) and the number of participations according participant department localisation (column vi). The expected headquarters effect is foreseen in relation to the structure of national research systems. It should be noted that the total number of participations of the 9 regions represents 7,5 % of the total FP participations with headquarters effect (5.590 over 74.460).

Figure 11: FP7 participations according to the FP7 contract database

Region	Country (i)	Expected headquarters effect (ii)	Nuts Code (iii)	Nuts Level (iv)	Number of participations according to the headquarter localisation (v)	Number of participations according to the participant department localisation (vi)	Headquarters effect in %[3] Not checked by stakeholders (vii)
ANDALUSIA	ES	Strong	ES61	2	238	309	22,9%
BRETAGNE	FR	Strong	FR52	2	136	209	34,9%
CATALUNIA	ES	Strong	ES51	2	1351	1439	6,1%
EAST of ENGLAND	UK	Minor	UKH	1	962	1030	7 %
West Finland (OSTROBOTHIA)	FI	Minor	FI19	2	171	212	19,3%
FLANDERS	BE	Minor	BE2	1	1340	1408	4,8%
NIEDERSACHSEN	DE	Strong	DE9	1			
PROVENCE ALPES COTE DAZUR	FR	Strong	FR82	2	321	413	22,2%
TUSCANY	IT	Strong	ITE1	2	591	645	8,3%

3.2.5 Analysis on EU R&D budget and projects breakdown (ERDF, FP and CIP) for each region (task 2.2.4 of the proposal)

From the data gathered on regional participations under the previous task, indicators and budget breakdowns will be calculated.

Regional participations and budgets for FP, CIP, and SF are then distributed into R&D sectors (an adapted FP7 taxonomy can be used for that) at intra-regional level (NUTS 3 generally) in order to obtain a first set of comprehensive and aggregated indicators.

The core project group for component 2 will provide the indicators of reference for this and will ask the TPG to comment upon them and to further contribute to them, notably as regards:

- The number of projects and the stakeholders funded in the regions involved in the project through the EU regional policy, the FP and the CIP.
- The total EU R&D budgets invested through the EU regional policy, the FP and the CIP in the regions involved in the project
- The typology of the participants in each region (Higher education, research, company, SME…)
- The breakdown of the projects funded through the EU regional policy, the FP and the CIP, and of their aggregated budgets into scientific fields, at regional and infra-regional levels, in the regions involved in the project

[3] ((column vi)-(column v))/(column vi)

- The collaborative links developed by the stakeholders involved in the projects funded by FP and CIP

3.2.6 Analysis of collaborative links developed by stakeholders involved in projects funded by FP6/FP7 and CIP (task 2.2.5 of the proposal)

Analysis of the collaborative links will be carried out on the basis of the data resulting from the matching phase. In this context a preliminary Social Network Analysis will be performed which would serve as an input to the more extensive assessments and estimations foreseen in the context of the other project activities and notably within Component 4.

3.2.7 Status

Access to EU dataset related to EU RDI programmes in the 9 target regions have been fully achieved, although with considerable delays and gaps, and although this information should have been available at project start.

Design of a template for matching and comparison of data between the 9 participating regions have been established and submitted to Stakeholders. During the matching phase, data from EU dataset is checked against data on the ground and verified in cooperation with SH regions.

The evaluation of regional participation (Component 2 of the AMCER project) aims to provide a list and breakdown of EU R&D investments at regional level in the nine study regions.

Activities in these areas are well underway and are being pursued in close cooperation with Stakeholders.

Depending on the degree of cooperation and the specific difficulties which may be encountered in the context of each region, it is foreseen that this activity should be completed with success in due course. The next Steering Committee meeting in May will provide an opportunity to discuss and address any outstanding issue in this regards.

Inputs will be provided to the Social Network Analysis to be performed in the subsequent Components of the project.

The component will result in a complete set of fiches on fact and figures related to the participation of each of the 9 Stakeholders regions in EU RDI programmes. For information the draft fiche concerning Britanny region (Region Bretagne) is attached at annex 2 of the present report.

3.3 Component 3 Methodology and workshop

The Component will be an opportunity to confront results to the existing typologies that have been proposed to define regional characteristics with regard to R&D and innovation efforts and R&D and innovation outcomes.

3.3.1 Aim

Develop a methodology, with recommendations to EU and regional authorities, to monitor and evaluate the effects of various EU programmes on regional R&D and innovation sectors.

The aim of the workshop, as outlined in the inception report, is the development of the methodology, with recommendations to EU and regional authorities, to monitor and evaluate the effects of various EU programmes on regional R&D and innovation sectors. By the end of it, I would expect there to be a broadly agreed analysis approach/typology, a good basis for FP/CIP data analysis within but also beyond the 9 regions.

To achieve that, there needs to be room for discussion/workshop activities which give you validation and suggestions for further improvement etc. It would probably be me from ESPON. I will speak to Peter on his return tomorrow about who we could suggest for invitation. He did not think there was much point trying to get EC people to Florence but certainly for the post-final report conference in Brussels.

3.3.2 Objectives

- Define common regional analysis and typology
- Present and discuss the results of AMCER analysis in the context of a workshop
- Prepare on this basis a methodology for analyzing FP and CIP data at regional level
- Prepare a synthesis paper on the above-mentioned methodology

3.3.3 Activities

Assessment of the headquarter analysis in the nine regions

Status of the matching performed by AMCER and the Stakeholder in order to build consistent and reliable set of indicators

Figure 12: Example of headquarter analysis-the case of Brittany in the FP7

1. Overall result of the Headquarter analysis

1- Overall result of the Headquarter analysis	
(1) Nbr of participation with no headquarter effect	136
(2) Nbr of ingoing participations	73
(3) Nbr of outgoing participations	0
Total nbr of participations (1)+(2)-(3)	209

2. Participation localisation detail (Ingoing participations, Outgoing participation and static participation)

Participation flow	Regions with participations to subtract	Regions with participation to add	Number of participation concerned	***Total***	***%***
In	FR10	FR521	3		
In	FR10	FR522	42		
In	FR51	FR522	1		
In	FR10	FR523	27	***73***	***34,9%***
Out					
no Headquarter effect				***136***	***65,1%***
Total (after correction)				***209***	***100,0%***

3. Typology of Ingoing, Outgoing and static participation

Organisation type	Ingoing participations		Outgoing participations		Static participations	
HES	4	5,5%			59	43,4%
OTH	1	1,4%			10	7,4%
PRC	2	2,7%			52	38,2%
PUB		0,0%			7	5,1%
REC	66	90,4%			8	5,9%
	73	100,0%	0		136	100,0%

3.3.4 Draft Methodology

Following consultation with Stakeholders in the context of the Project Steering Committee held on 15 February 2012, it was agreed that for the methodology foreseen as a result of Component 3, the TGP would focus on a description of the process followed to achieve access to data, analyses performed and results to be achieved, based on practical measures and, proposals on a common structure for databases related to RDI.

AMCER would deliver a harmonised methodology on the databases and recommendations on the shape of future databases so as they support evidence-based policymaking. This should be a practical 'how to' guide for other regions so that their efforts built upon the learning of the AMCER project.

In particular, the overall issue of data access by regions will be considered generally in the context of the preparation and discussion of the methodology foreseen in Component 3.

3.3.5 Workshop

A workshop related to the AMCER project is scheduled to take place, under the auspices of the lead regional partner, Tuscany, on 16 May 2012, in Florence. Practical preparations are underway, and official invitation together with draft programme has been issued by the Tuscany Region.

The aim of the **workshop** (Task 2.3.3) will be twofold:

1. Discussing the impacts of regional policy in favour of R&D and innovation on employment and growth; and
2. Discussing the methodology to measure these impacts with experts who have participated in similar projects.

1) In practice, the workshop will be organised in three steps. After a presentation in a plenary session of the objective and of the organisation of the workshop, parallel sessions will be held. Each parallel session will start with a presentation by a key speaker who was or is involved in a similar project. After the presentation, a common set of questions will be tackled dealing with the pitfalls, the outcomes and the ability of the project to reply to policymakers' needs. A rapporteur will be assigned to present the main conclusions of the parallel session to the plenary session (third step). The Consortium suggests that the rapporteurs will be regional policymakers. This will ensure that issues and topics that will be discussed will be oriented towards policymakers' interest and needs (Component 3).
2) The second objective is to fine-tune the methodology to measure these impacts. At the end of the Component we will propose a working paper for circulation. The paper should address the whole issue of data access by regions and will present the main results and will represent a milestone for further research on the measurement of the impacts of R&D and innovation policies on employment and growth.

   AMCER would deliver a harmonised methodology on the databases and recommendations on the shape of future databases so as they support evidence-based policymaking. This should be a practical 'how to' guide for other regions so that their efforts built upon the learning of the AMCER project.

3.4 Component 4 Impact assessment

3.4.1 Introduction

On the basis of the data produced by the previous components, the Component 4 will assess how EU R&D policies' have likely affected R&D performance and territorial cohesion in the regions involved in the project.. It will focus in particular on the influence and coherence of the European projects with the regional R&D systems, in terms of Inputs, Networking and Outputs.

This implies comparing the structure of the projects, in terms of fields' specialization, network structure, and the main characteristics of the regional economic and R&D system. Data generated by the other components and in other projects, specifically ESPON ones, will be examined in detail in order to investigate the link between regional R&D patterns and EU programmes participation of the 9 AMCER regions.

3.4.2 Aim

The overall aim of the component is to evaluate the territorial dynamics related to R&D and innovation activities in the 9 AMCER regions and how this dynamics is coherent with their participation in the EU programmes.

3.4.3 Objectives

The territorial assessment represents the final stage of the component 4, providing quantitative analysis on the relationship between EU R&D policies on the regional R&D system.

Specifically this activity will address the following topics:

- The coherence between EU funding and regional R&D system, e.g. the strengthening of some performers, creation of new preferential links, etc.

- The overall positioning of the regional R&D system at national and international level in terms of participation and involvement in EU projects.

- The impact on the regional dynamics and cohesion, e.g. phenomena of spatial concentration related to EU funding or better spatial distribution of R&D activities (e.g. integrating also peripheral areas).

It should be noted that this component will aim to produce an assessment on various aspects (SNA, cooperation, patent, etc.) but would not produce a proper assessment of the impact, as this is technically unfeasible. Therefore the result of this component should not be considered as a technical ex post impact evaluation (see p16-17 of the project specification). Also it will not aim at evaluating the RDI regional policies of the region participating in the AMCER project.

3.4.4 Expected impact and Hypotheses

The scale of EU R&D expenditures is often marginal in comparison to the regional effects of national policies: they are unlikely to secure significant visible territorial effects, such as increases in the number of personnel employed in R&D activities (Espon, project 2.1.2 Territorial Impact of EU Research and Development Policy - second interim report, 2006). Nevertheless, European projects and policies are expected to produce several effects on the regional R&D systems, in terms of Inputs, Outputs and Networking (Georghiu, 2002). Effects are typically measured in terms of additionality, a concept derived from the theory of market failure and consist in comparing the level of actual vs. optimal investment (input additionality) and actual vs. optimal outcomes (output additionality). The latter is based on evolutionary and systemic failures (behavioural additionality). Assessment of additionality would require panel data. Rather, we will target out analysis in order to isolate the simple direct contribution of the EU funding and speculate about the additionality effects.

INPUTS Additionality:

More investment and R&D than there would be without EU funding. The real investment tend to be lower than optimal one, because of the risks connected to investment in R&D, which is highly uncertain in terms of outcomes. Then, one expectation is that the public intervention will produce additional effects, with more research efforts and projects compared to the level of activity without public support.

We will estimate the flow of EU funding by sector and compare with other sources of investment.

OUTPUT Additionality - Knowledge and economic results:

Employment in research clusters. R&D funds from EU programmes that are received by regions and their component firms and institutions could have an effect over time on employment and regional GDP. Also taking into account possible outcomes from previous components, we may analyse the evolution of employment in the core R&D clusters comparing sectors with a strong EU support with others with low EU support.

Patents. There are two ways for assessing the technological impact (using patents as a proxy) of FP projects. First: are participants active in the field of technology? This feature can be measured by analysing the patents applied for by projects' participants, by number and sector of application. Second: how does the technological scope of FP programmes fit with a given regional technological profile? This can be assessed by analyzing patents that are either applied by an institution located in a region or that involve an inventor located therein.

For this purpose, the following activities have been undertaken:

- Extraction within the Patstat database of the European patents with applicants located within the 9 regions under study.
- Identification of the main applicants in each region
- Distribution in each region of patents according to the 35 WIPO technological fields.
- Design of a new classification of technology in 389 categories. This new classification is based on WIPO hierarchical classification that distinguishes, at its finest aggregation level, 35 technological fields, these 35 fields, being grouped in 5 technological domains.
- Methodological exploration aiming at establishing the feasibility of producing a global map of technology that allows to 'overlay' patents produced by a specific actors (e.g. regions) against the background of a stable representation of global technological invention for producing comparisons that are visually attractive, very readable, and potentially useful for policy-making and strategic management

Networking – Behavioural additionality. Several levels of networking may be stimulated through EU R&D programmes, with several different types of actors. What kind of relationship is stimulated? What is the impact in terms of collaboration intensity and patterns? The importance of knowledge flows and interactions within the innovative system emerge from evolutionary economics; there are barriers to networking, which derive, for instance, from the risks connected to the potential opportunistic behaviour by partners (Luukkonen, 2000).

Regional, national, international. EU Framework Programmes provide a ready to – use legal collaboration frame, facilitating the creation of cross country and cross-institutional projects (Lukkonen and Niskanene, 1998). The key point is that the benefits of networking at national and international level will be not confined to the networking subject, but rather carried in the regional context as well. At the same time, regional collaboration in R&D projects (e.g. through clusters) encourages extending this collaboration in EU-funded R&D projects (Fernandez-Ribas and Shapira; 2009).

Horizontal, vertical, mixed. Partners may be at the same level of the production process (horizontal), clients or sub-contractors (vertical), or involve collaboration both with competitors and suppliers or with sub-contractors (mixed types). Mixed relationships are important particularly in high tech sectors, presumably because there is a need to reach out a wider knowledge base, developing heterogeneous collaboration networks (Luukkonen, 2003).

At the organization level, finding a partner is not straightforward: one has to carefully balance opportunities and risks. Mutual trust or legal arrangements may play a role in overcoming the risks and difficulties of partnerships. The levels of inter-personal trust, as well as other indicators of social capital, are strongly variable across European Regions, and they have proven to have a strong connection with the regional economic performance (Tabellini et al.,

2006). It may be argued that high levels of trust ease collaboration, while low levels may rather spur the emergence of more formalized agreements. EU projects provide a ready-to use legal framework and support, this may impact differently across regions with different level of trust. For instance, EU projects may be a major arrangement to deepen collaboration within the region or to widen extra regional partners.

More generally, we expect to find different patterns of collaboration depending on the characteristics of the region in terms of economic-research specialization, human capital and social capital. A major task will be to identify the regional key players, what is their role and whether, and to what extent, they are connected to the local context.

The network and type of collaborations of regional actors in the mentioned dimension will be analysed and mapped. Map will display the patterns of collaboration within the region and with actors in other regions and countries; synthetic indexes will represent the collaborations by geographic dimension and actor composition.

A number of the mentioned topics have been already investigated by the ESPON project 2.1.2, producing evidence of the positive effects of the R&D policies on Regions. The principal area where EU R&D policies are having a direct territorial impact is in the areas of networking and local knowledge development, in terms of investment in infrastructures, equipment, researchers training (Espon, 2.1.2 project, Final Report 2006.)[4]. Nevertheless, there are a number of open questions.

3.4.5 Methodologies

Evaluation has moved away from purist model of objective neutrality to more formative approaches in which evaluators involve relevant stakeholders in learning exercises. Impact assessment becomes an awareness-raising tool,

[4] Framework programs and Structural Funds are complementary and together result in high frequency knowledge networks with strong ties, establish and facilitate intraregional linkages, connecting the region to the high-level knowledge networks, stimulate networking amongst companies and other regional institutions. The Structural Funds have been used on many occasions to establish research and innovation centers as well as to promote co-operation between higher education and applied research bodies and the private sector, whilst the Framework Programs have also been instrumental in promoting such co-operative arrangements. Such actions are taking place in both economically strong and weak areas, although there is evidence that the relative impact is greater in economically weak areas. However, Framework Programs are particularly prone to reinforcing existing clusters of activity, the benefits are often highly concentrated within regions, and knowledge may be principally retained by the project participants themselves.

rather than a precise measurement, which should support and enhance participation and debate.

Modern impact assessment requires the use of several quantitative and qualitative techniques, each playing a specific role in the evaluation process. The AMCER evaluation process follows these approaches. Component 4 will receive several inputs from the other components, mostly descriptive and quantitative, and further qualitative inquiry will be promoted in coordination with the regional partners. The use of quantitative and qualitative data also allows a 'double-check', by comparing participants' view vs. objective measures.

The Region Profiling (task 2.4.1. of the AMCER application) is a key step to understand the basic characteristics of the region in terms of research and economic orientation, human and social capital. Through this, it will be possible to identify the most important and promising research/economic sectors, what is their level of knowledge intensity, what are their future perspectives; as well as the main actors and the policies developed to support R&D at the regional level. This section makes use of indicators as well as document analysis. Thus, regions can be characterized as "knowledge producing" and/or "knowledge using": knowledge-producing regions are those where significant amounts of R&D activity takes place, while knowledge-using regions are those which have a high proportion of knowledge-based economic sectors and a high graduate employment rate. Regions can also be described in terms of their absorptive capacity i.e. their capability to exploit knowledge.

EU funding profiling (task 2.4.2. of the AMCER application) aim at identifying in greater detail which areas are more often funded by EU program, at the regional level. The regional partners will be required to collect more detailed information on funding streams and initiative promoted by the regional level toward its R&D system.

These first sections will be used to make an initial estimate of the coherence between the initiatives and funding at the regional and EU level and the research-economic profile of the region:

Which EU R&D policies mostly affect the region? What kind of actors and sectors are directly and indirectly affected by these interventions?
Are policies and investments coherent with the characteristics of the context? Are the most important and / or promising sectors sufficiently supported and stimulated?

- Are EU and Regional initiative synergic, complementary or redundant? Are them coherent with the region knowledge profile and absorptive capacity?
- What are the territorial conditions which allow regions to take best advantage of EU R&D policy (economic conditions and structure, regional and national policy context)?
- How accessible are EU R&D policy instruments in different types of region? How far do EU R&D policies support polycentric development?

Quantitative estimation of impact will make use of the Cluster analysis and of the Network and Patent analysis (see above). The cluster analysis will identify the agglomerations of economic activity that are particularly significant in each of the nine regions. Employment data from the European Cluster Observatory will be used to calculate specialisation indicators. The European Cluster Observatory uses NACE 4-digit employment data (number of employees) at NUTS2 level provided by national statistical agencies to provide data on employment in the 41 cluster categories. These data will be used to provide an initial diagnostic of the actual distribution of economic activities present in each region and their relative importance, calculating concentration ratios with reference to the European average to identify particularly significant agglomerations. This diagnostic can be extended back in time (around 10 years of data) to provide a dynamic analysis that will enable a tracking of the growth and evolution of specialisations of activity over time. This will provide a basis for comparative analysis with the data gathered in project component 2 on the distribution of R&D subsidies from FP and CIP programmes, enabling an exploration of the relationship between specialisation and EU public-policy support in R&D over time.

Estimates of impacts will be based through approximations, such as correlating cohesion spending and GDP, employment and R&D growth; investments in specific cluster of activity and outputs measured in terms of firms involved in the Framework Programs, patents, commercialization, employment.

In a second stage, qualitative assessments (task 2.4.3. of the AMCER application) will be carried out with the support of the regional partners. Key players will be identified as targets of the qualitative analysis, by using both information from the previous components and in consultation with regional partners.

Interviews will be carried out with key players of the regional RD policy to understand either how participation in EU programmes of regional players helped the region in developing or strengthening competences or why there are discrepancies between regional competences and participation of regional actors in EU programmes.

The idea originally foreseen of carrying out a survey based on a business questionnaire has been abandoned following consultation with Stakeholders in the context of the Project Steering Committee held on 15 February 2012.

In this context it was agreed that the possibility of carrying out an SME survey on the basis of an on-line questionnaire would be time consuming and offer a limited contribution to the project conclusion and therefore should not be carried out. Some regions indicated that there was much existing data already that could be used.

Instead it will be compensated by with interviews with business intermediaries, combined with a partial review of previously published R&D evaluations (whether at regional level where they exist, within the respective

programmes, etc.) or other work in order to provide the necessary insight which would allowed a broad estimation of the additionality of EU R&D funding within regions – what is happening that would not have without the funding. In particular, possible discussions on this and related topics will also taken into account.

A pool of regional experts and key player will be interviewed in order to further address the previous questions (task 2.4.3. of the AMCER application). Finally, a participatory stakeholder assessment may also be helpful, since it allows the combination of qualitative and quantitative means, it generates debate and consensus on what are the regional specificities, support understanding of which elements determine the results, etc.

The component will result in a paper providing an assessment and summarizing the main results of the analysis carried out (task 2.4.4. of the AMCER application).

3.4.6 MAPS

Data is not provided for all European regions, but only a limited sample of them. Thus, it will not be practical to present the results of each region on the basis of maps of Europe.

Rather, maps can be useful if referred to each region, by positioning the most important actors, those who received more funds, symbols identifying their field of activity (by shape) and amount of funds of research developed (size), and by using lines to underline connections between them (co-projecting, weblinks, etc.).

Regions will be placed in the European context and links with regional, national and European partners in the EU projects will be represented, together with indicators that provide synthetic information on the degree of collaboration with the different levels. Thus, we will identify regions and actors with different patterns of collaboration by using NUTS3 information.

3.4.7 Status

The activities related to this component have been initiated. Activities related to patent analysis are ongoing. Other activities are in advanced planning stage in order to effectively coordinate the inputs to be provided by the various analyses to be performed. The component activities are also depended to some degree upon inputs from previous components.

The component will result in a paper providing an assessment and summarizing the main results of the analysis carried out (task 2.4.4. of the AMCER application).

3.5 Component 5 Synthesis and inter-regional comparison

The final Component will bring together the results from each of the previous Components and tasks. The work will provide a synthesis of the research results and of inter-regional comparisons. It will create comparative analysis and synthesis at both the horizontal level and at the R&D sector level.

3.5.1 Draft Final Report

This report will present the final results of the project and will focus on relevant conclusions and recommendations at the level of each region. Also the monitoring tool shall be fully presented. The report will comprise findings from the activities performed with regard to the research components 1-5.

The (draft) Final Report would provide an opportunity to:

- Validate the outcome and finding of the analyses performed in the previous components;
- Include a policy analysis of the relevant EU development;
- Relevant definitions, (such as R&D, innovation, SMEs, Cluster, etc.), classification of activities, notably in the context of ERDF;
- Provide recommendations on how to improve coordination of assistance related to RDI at EU, national and regional levels;
- Recommendations for the development of regionalized indicators on the results and impact of EU R&D policies;
- Experiences and Recommendations on Access to EU data;
- Analyse Implications and put forward appropriate recommendations for Territoriality, Smart Specialisation, Framework conditions, RDI region policy development, transferability of results, etc.

3.5.2 Final Recommendations

On this basis, the draft final report will aim to provide a limited number of focussed recommendations in the following areas:

- Exploiting possible synergies with the Smart Specialisation process and more generally for the preparation of the Horizon 2020 programme.
- Suggestions for improving coordination of assistance in the RDI sector both at national and regional level, as appropriate.
- Suggestions for contributing to strategies for Smart Specialisation Process.

- How to improve tracking of Framework Programmes and possibly evaluation also taking into account territorial dimension, without prejudging of course their European dimension.

- Provision of information to the Commission Services in the form of facts and figures about the situation in the regions to contribute to establish a good knowledge of facts at regional level.

- How to improve the communication level between the Commission Services and stakeholders concerning access to programmes databases, while preserving the necessary confidentiality provisions

- Make proposal on the technical aspects of improving entries in databases.

3.5.3 Final Conference

The presentation of the results will take place at the final conference and will follow the final report. The final report will have been checked at draft stage by the end users, the ESPON Monitoring Committee, the European Commission and the ESPON Coordination Unit. Therefore the final conference is expected to allow for creating synergies between the project results and related policy and research initiatives. The conference involves members of the Steering Committee, as well as other organisations to be invited by the Steering Committee.

3.5.4 Final Report

This report shall be a revision of the Draft Final Report taking into consideration comments and suggestions on the Draft Final Report received from the stakeholders and end users, the ESPON Monitoring Committee, the European Commission and the ESPON Coordination Unit.

The report will comprise findings under components 1-5. In parallel with this final report, the datasets, maps and figures used and produced within the framework of the project will be delivered.

3.6 Work Package 3 Dissemination

3.6.1 Introduction

Dissemination activities will focus mainly on the 9 AMCER regions. It will consist in mapping the concerned and relevant audiences at EU and in the 9 regions and devising appropriate messages and information material, in close coordination with stakeholders.

Dissemination objectives

The objectives of the dissemination activities can be summarized in the following points:

- Maximize the visibility of the AMCER project to external stakeholders in each of the partner countries
- Support and improve the value of the AMCER project activities through constructive interaction with concerned audiences
- Disseminate the main results of the AMCER project to relevant stakeholders and wider target audiences.

Meeting user demand/benefit for stakeholders

These dissemination activities will allow the nine AMCER regions to raise awareness about:

- Impact of EU R&D policies on regional R&D systems, in general,
- Increase information specialised audiences and to some extend the public at large about the regions' involvement in EU R&D programmes and their implications
- Involve a wider audience in the debate related to the preparation for the strategic reference frameworks and operational programmes under the next programming period (2014-2020);
- Contribute to the analysis and review of regionalised indicators on the results and impact of EU R&D policies;
- Improve decision makers, practitioners and concerned audiences understanding and access to results of EU statistics;
- Get a better view and how to improve the effectiveness of EU R&D programmes for the regional cause (i.e. by means of social network, patent and cluster analyses);
- Promote use of a prototype methodology to search, analyze and monitor regional participations and harvesting from EU R&D programmes (controlling headquarter effects);
- Set out a path for the further development and roll-out of this methodology

Dissemination content

The content for dissemination will include:

- Results from the 9 AMCER project regions, relating to the impact of EU R&D programmes on regional RDI systems and economies,
- Comparative analysis and synthesis between all 9 participating regions,
- Final reporting and policy recommendations, including input from stakeholders, end users, ESPON, the EU, etc., as appropriate.

Target groups

Main target groups for dissemination of AMCER progress and results are:

- European level policy makers and representatives of Member States dealing with R&D and monitoring activities: such as relevant EU Commission, Parliament, Committee of Regions and Council policy/decision makers; MS representatives in relevant committees, relevant journalists and media specialised in EU affairs, etc.
- Regional and local policy makers and practitioners involved in the development R&D capacities and policies in their territories: such as relevant policy/decision makers in Regional/provincial authorities; National R&D and Innovation agencies and organisations, etc.
- The scientific community involved in AMCER-related research: such as Framework Programme representatives and points of contact at Regional/local level; relevant education, R&D representatives
- Research centres, business actors and other organizations forming part of R&D systems: Public affairs and information officers from regional research centers; business NGOs, specialised journalists and media at regional/national level.

3.6.2 Methodology for dissemination, exploitation and communication of research results.

Task 3.1. Mapping of interested audiences in the project

Activities related to this task will involve the compilation and creation of a database containing useful contacts details (names, function, and email and phone contacts, as appropriate) of relevant audiences (see above Target Groups).

This listing will focus mainly on actors and players at the level of EU institutions and organizations (as appropriate) and at the level of the 9 partner regions involved in the project. National bodies and/or organisations from the 7 countries concerned by the project may also be involved, such as Innovation Agencies, National Contact Points, etc. Other regions and organizations, notably from CPRM, may be taken into account on an ad hoc basis.

Indicatively, the database should include between 500 and 1000 contacts. Concerning regional contacts, cooperation will be sought from Stakeholders and Project Partners.

The database will be populated by all partners in the project ensuring that there is a potential for wider dissemination to stakeholders from all the countries involved.

Activities related to this task are ongoing and the database should be available in principle from April 2012, and will be depended in large extend on the provision by regional stakeholder of relevant inputs.

Task 3.2. Communicating to interested audiences on research results

The aforementioned database will be used to communicate to relevant audiences insights and progress statements relating to the dissemination content.

The various options outlined in the application concerning dissemination and communication activities (section 4, 5.1. dissemination and communication strategy) will be reviewed and validated in coordination with stakeholders to assess their interests and priorities, both in terms of impact and feasibility.

In this context, careful reflection will be engaged in cooperation with regional stakeholders on ways to communicate the AMCER results to a non-regional and scientific audience. In particular following ESPON MC valuable comments, and depending on the timing available and the availability of the project results, possibility will be explored for partners to set aside some time for dissemination to regions in their own country, preferably through co-operation with their ECP.

It should be noted that progress on the activities related to this task is depended on the project's progress in achieving its objectives on the various components as well as the availability of relevant information and inputs from all partners and Stakeholders.

Therefore, at this stage, the LP will focus on the preparation and delivery of the following:

- Information update with Stakeholders representatives on project status and progress.
- Preparation of newsletters and/or factsheets to be circulated to Stakeholders and target audiences defined at Task 3.1.
- Presentations at ESPON seminar and other appropriate events, workshop and conferences etc.
- Special presentations to EU and/or Regional Policy/decision makers, to be defined as necessary and opportune.

Further dissemination tools also include the final conference and other ESPON related events where the AMCER project is required to present findings. Therefore, wider dissemination activities such as dissemination of information about the project in the press, media and specialized websites through press reports, articles, links etc., will be foreseen particularly for the project's major events (Component 3 workshop and Final Conference).

The application indicates that: *Dissemination activities are typically planned after each reporting round and following right after the final conference.* In principle, this approach would be respected, but given the status of the project, communication activities will be carried out in a pragmatic way depending on the degree of progress in achieving the results related to the various components of the project.

Therefore it is likely that most of the dissemination activities will be concentrated following delivery of the draft final report when results of analyses carried out within components 1 to 5, and notably the synthesis and interregional comparison, will be available and validated by TGP and Stakeholders.

3.6.3 Status

The approach outlined above was presented to stakeholders at the Steering Committee meeting on 16 February 2012.

A tentative listing of relevant contacts at EU level has been compiled. Inputs have been invited from Stakeholders concerning regional and other relevant contacts.

The aim by next Steering Committee is to finalise and circulate the list of contacts for dissemination purposes.

Meanwhile the LP has continued to carry out information activities as necessary or requested by Stakeholders: notably briefing for East Midland Office in Brussels; update and consultation with CRPM representative; meeting with EU Commission representatives (DG Regio/RTD) on 23 March 2012.

At 16/2 Steering Committee SH were invited to provide: list of contacts at regional level and possibly also relevant national or other regions' contacts; the possibility to involve their ESPON national Contact Points (ECPs); provide proposals for communication opportunities in EU context as well as regional level; and any other relevant comment or suggestion on the basis of the draft paper on communication and dissemination.

These matters will be pursued further in future contacts with Stakeholders in order to complete the list of contacts for disseminations activities and to carry out dissemination activities in concomitance of the forthcoming ESPON AMCER event in Florence on 16/5, with a view of further opportunities to inform EU decision makers and officials and in any case to support activities related to the project final event.

4 Description of further proceeding towards the Draft Final Report

In the period toward the next report the following development are expected:

Interim Report**:** This report should be submitted to Stakeholders with a view to discussions in the Steering Committee foreseen on 15 May 2012 in Florence.

Completion of activities on Component 1: submission of synthesis report (task 2.1.4.), annexed to the present Inception Report, to ESPON MC.

Continuation and finalisation of activities related to Component 2: matching regional data vis-a-vis EU data, analysis of EU R&D assistance per region, analysis of collaborative links between stakeholders involved, etc.

Pursuing activities related to Component 3, notably with a view to the preparation of a draft methodology and as regards organisation of the workshop (task 2.3.2.).

Pursuing of the activities related to Component 4: in depth regional analysis; analysis of correlation between EU programme participation and R&D output; etc.

Dissemination: activities related to communication and information will be pursued concerning information of stakeholders, mapping of interested audiences, devising means for communicating the project results, etc.

Draft Final Report: will present the final results of the project and will focus on relevant conclusions and recommendations at the level of each region. The report will comprise findings from the activities performed with regard to the research components 1-5.

Final Conference**:** The presentation of the results of the various components of the project will take place at the final conference and will follow the circulation of the Draft Final Report. This event will also be the opportunity to present the project results to practitioners and concerned audience. Communication and dissemination of project result will be carried out in concomitance.

Final Report**:** This report shall be a revision of the Draft Final Report taking into consideration comments and suggestions on the Draft Final Report received from the stakeholders and end users, the ESPON Monitoring Committee, the European Commission and the ESPON Coordination Unit. The report will comprise findings under components 1-5. In parallel with this final report, the datasets, maps and figures used and produced within the framework of the project will be delivered.

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